

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method for increasing the flexibility of the ocular lens of the eye, comprising the steps of:

a) selecting a location within the ocular lens of an eye;

b) creating a microsphere at the selected location, wherein said microsphere comprises a gas-filled bubble of generally spherical shape; and

c) repeating the steps of selecting and creating at a plurality of locations within the ocular lens so as to increase the flexibility of the lens

wherein the microsphere created in one step of creating remains separate from any other microsphere created during another step of creating.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said increase in flexibility corrects an optical anomaly of the eye.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein said optical anomaly comprises a refractive error.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein said refractive error is myopia, hyperopia, presbyopia, regular astigmatism, irregular astigmatism, or aberrations.

5. (Currently Amended) The method for increasing flexibility as set forth in claim 4, wherein the step of repeating generates at least one change in the ocular lens resulting in at least

one effect selected from the group consisting of: ~~creation of independent microspheres, creation of microchannels~~, alteration of lens surface curvature, increased lens flexibility, increased accommodation, reduced light scatter, reduced rate of increase in light scatter, and reduced rate of loss of accommodation.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said increase in flexibility increases accommodation of the lens.

7. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 further including the step of: allowing said microspheres to collapse while maintaining said increase in flexibility.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said collapse decreases the anterior to posterior thickness of the lens.

9. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the increase in flexibility creates no significant change in the anterior to posterior thickness of the lens.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said microspheres are created with a separation in the range of about 2 μm to about 20 μm .

12 - 14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
presenting antioxidants to the eye.
16. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 15 wherein said antioxidants mediate
changes to the ocular lens or other ocular structures and contents.
17. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising the step of altering a
lens capsule of the ocular lens.
18. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 17, whereby the surface area of the lens
capsule is reduced by thermoplasty.
19. (Original) The method for increasing flexibility as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step
of selecting primarily includes selecting locations within the adult and juvenile nuclei.
- 20-39. (Cancelled)